

EFFECTS OF PILE DRIVING ON FISH AND WILDLIFE



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Pressure Level

Pascals

100,000

10,000

Large ship at 100m

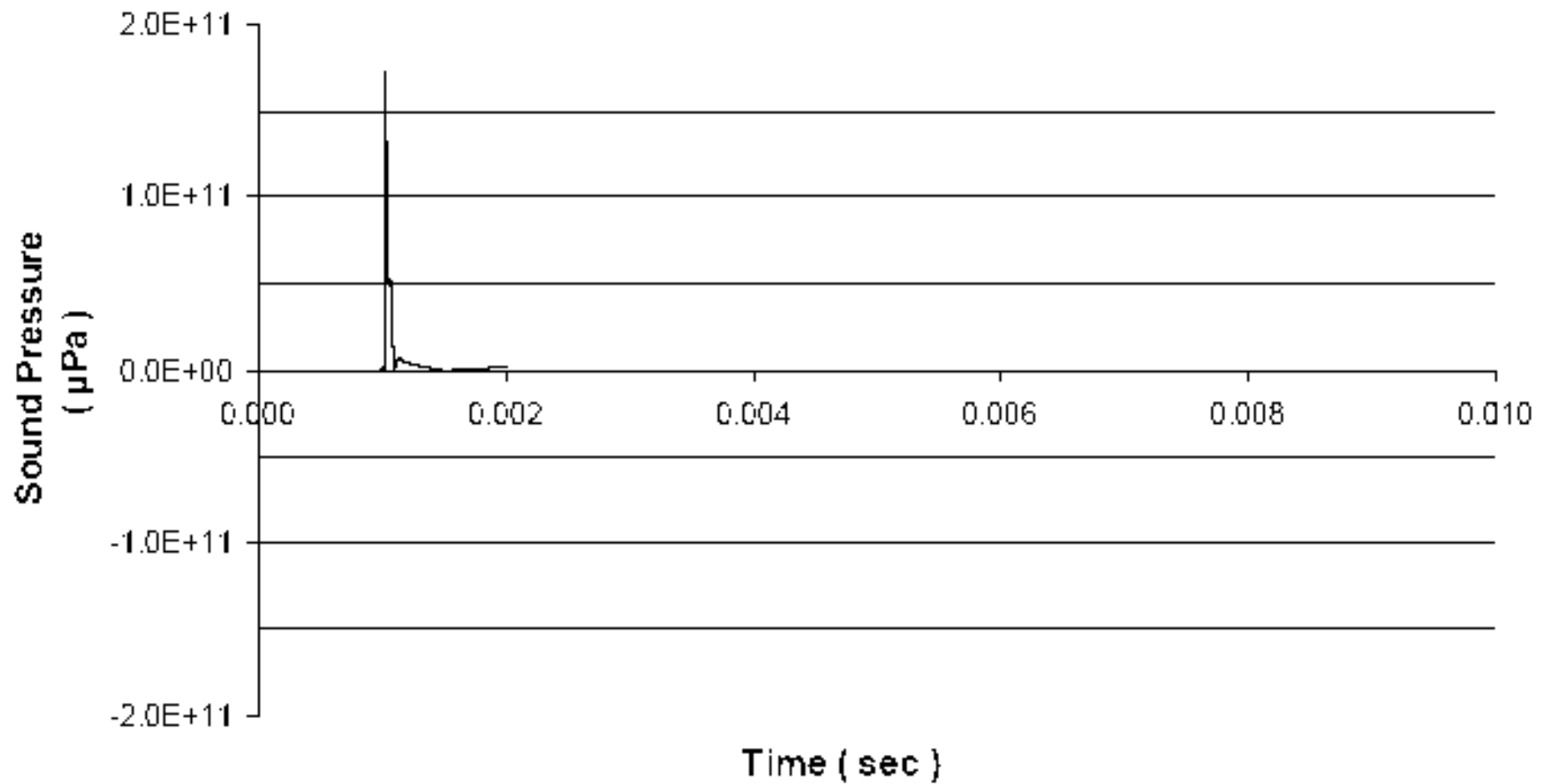
Fish Trawler passby (low speed) at 20m



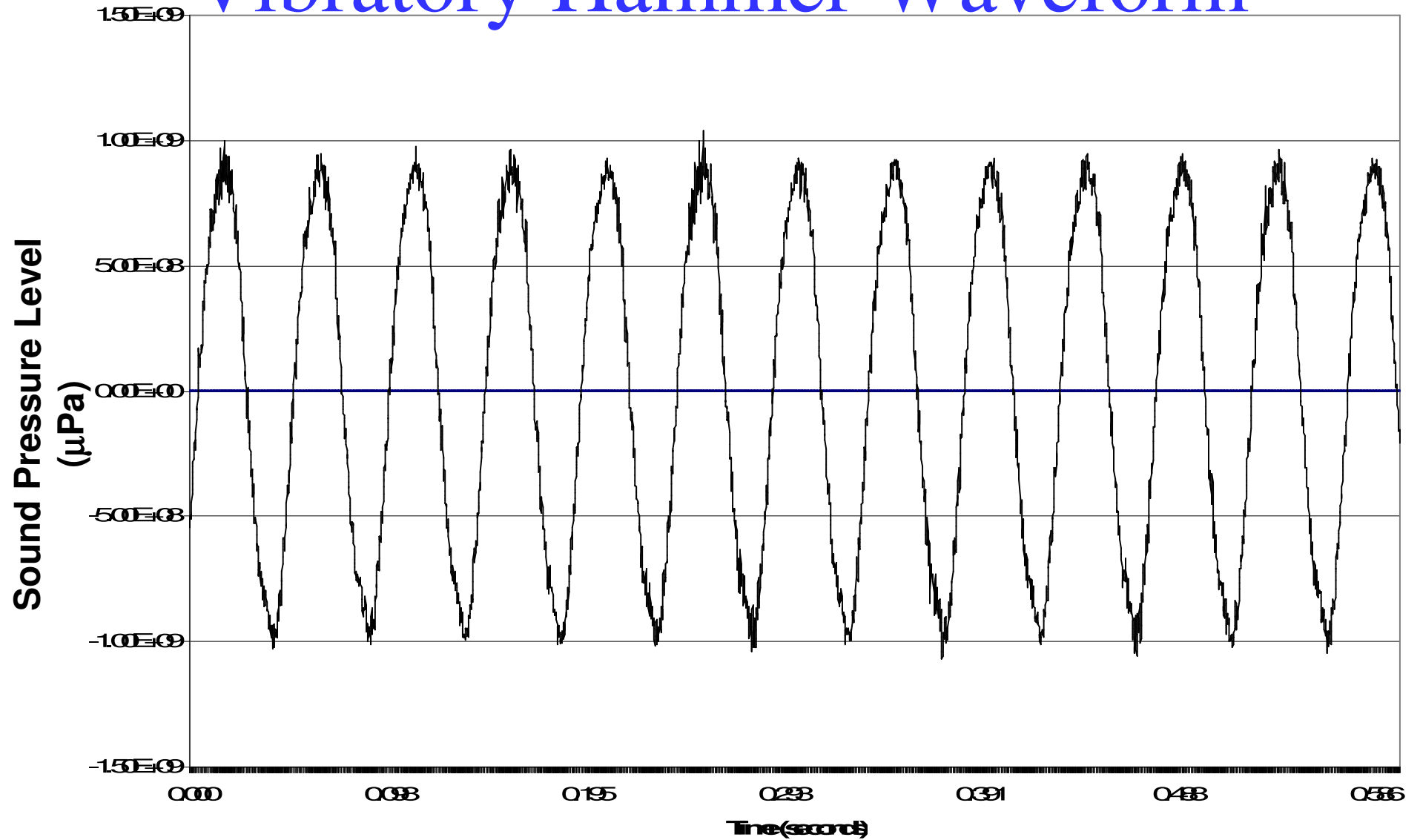
Hydroacoustics Background

- Underwater pile driving impacts to fish began to appear around 1995 in California and B.C.
- Decibels: $20 \log (p/p_{\text{ref}})$
 - Airborne noise: ref = 20 μPa .
 - Underwater noise: ref = 1 μPa .

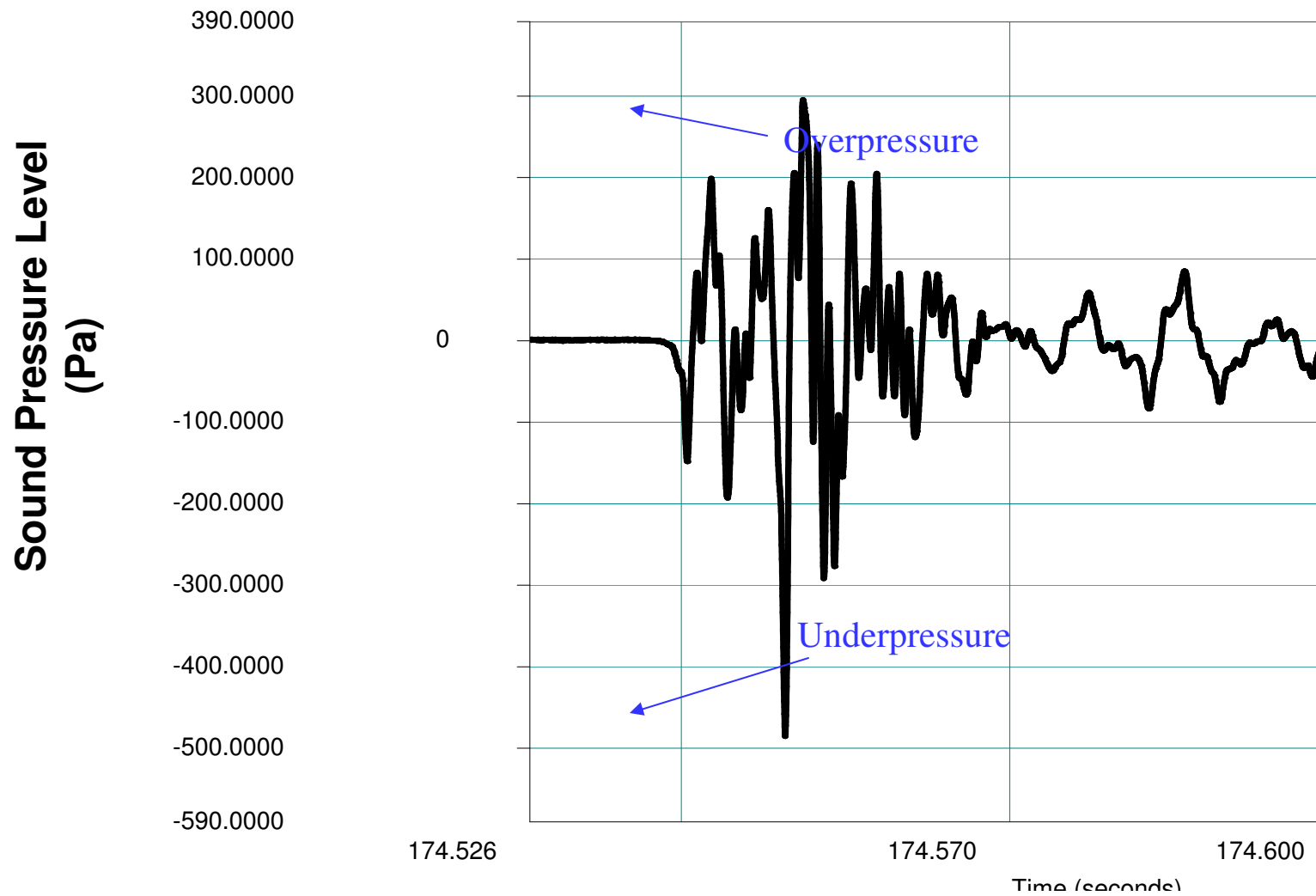
Underwater Blast Waveform

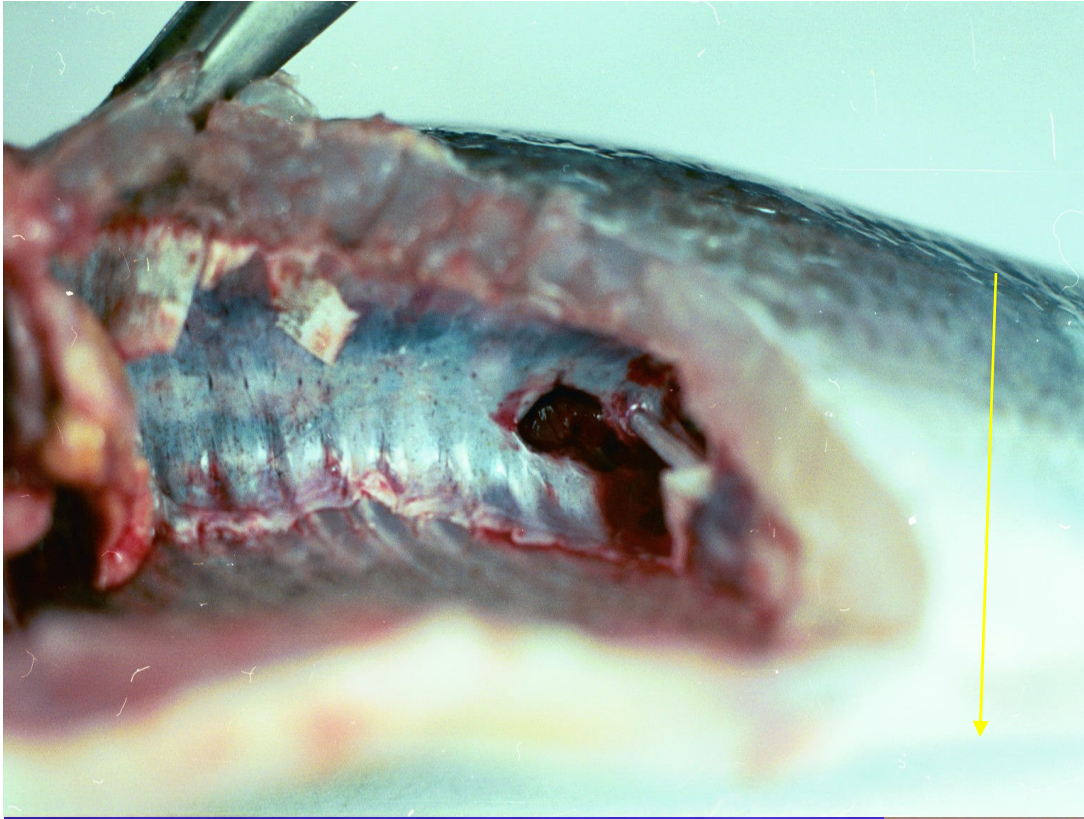


Vibratory Hammer Waveform



Impact Driving Waveform





Ruptured Swim Bladder (Surf Perch)

Internal
Bleeding



Photos by Bud Abbott

Sub-Lethal Effects

- Pile driving may damage inner ear (hair cells)
- Ear damage may be short term or permanent
- Hearing impairments may possibly increase predation
- Hearing impairments may possibly alter reproduction or feeding
- Not well studied

Normal Fish Hair Cells

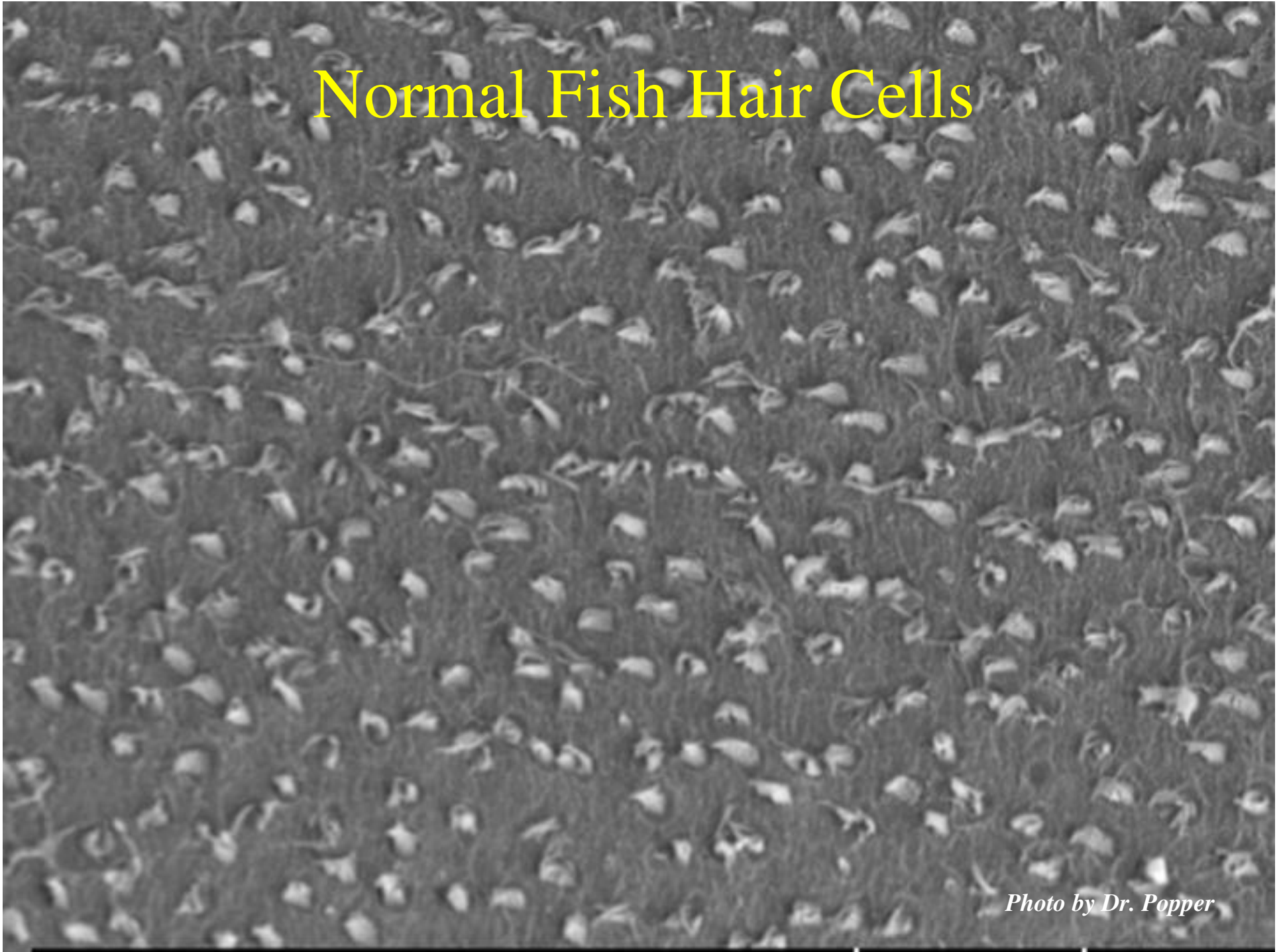


Photo by Dr. Popper

Damaged Fish Hair Cells (180-190 dB)

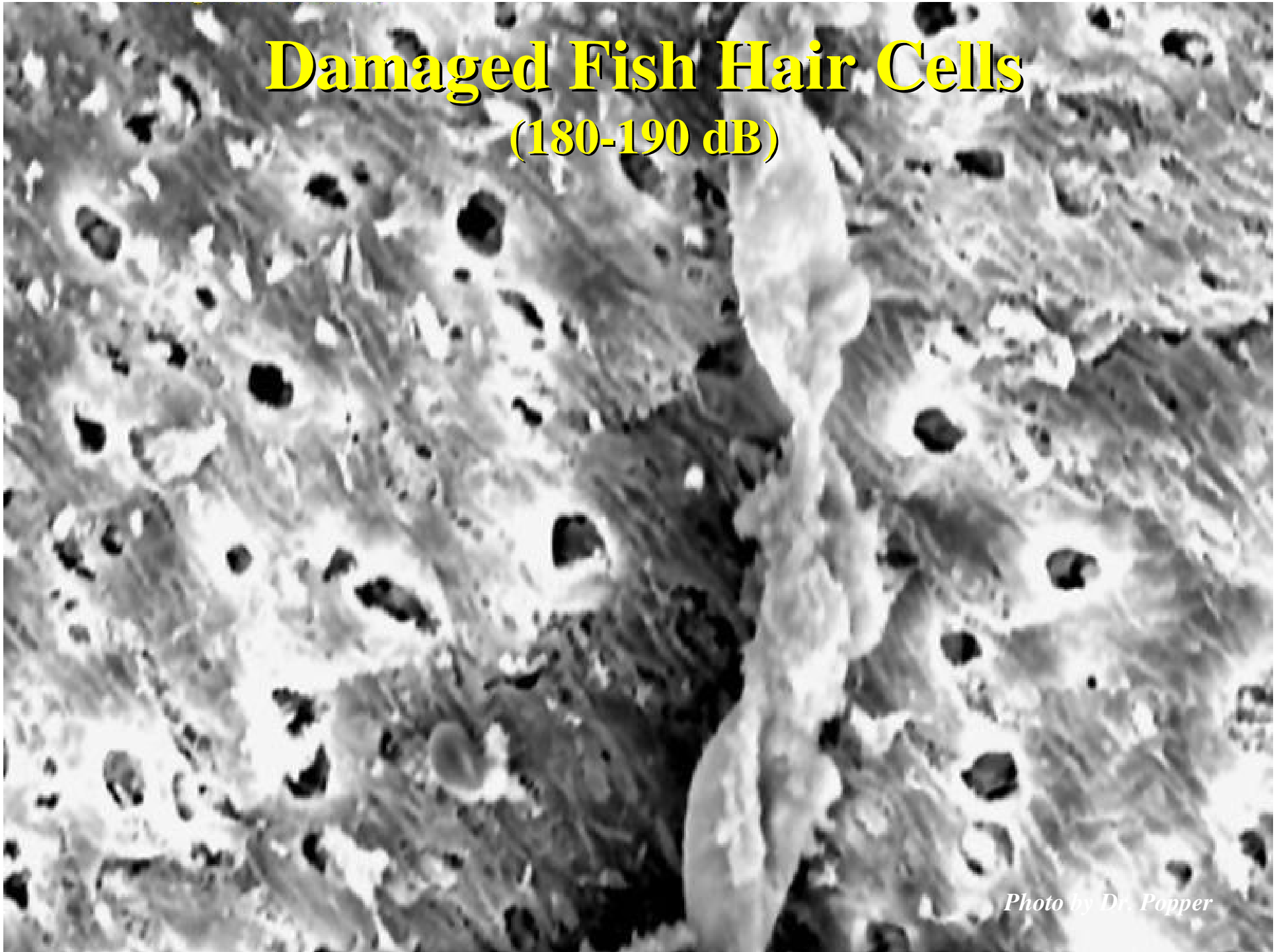
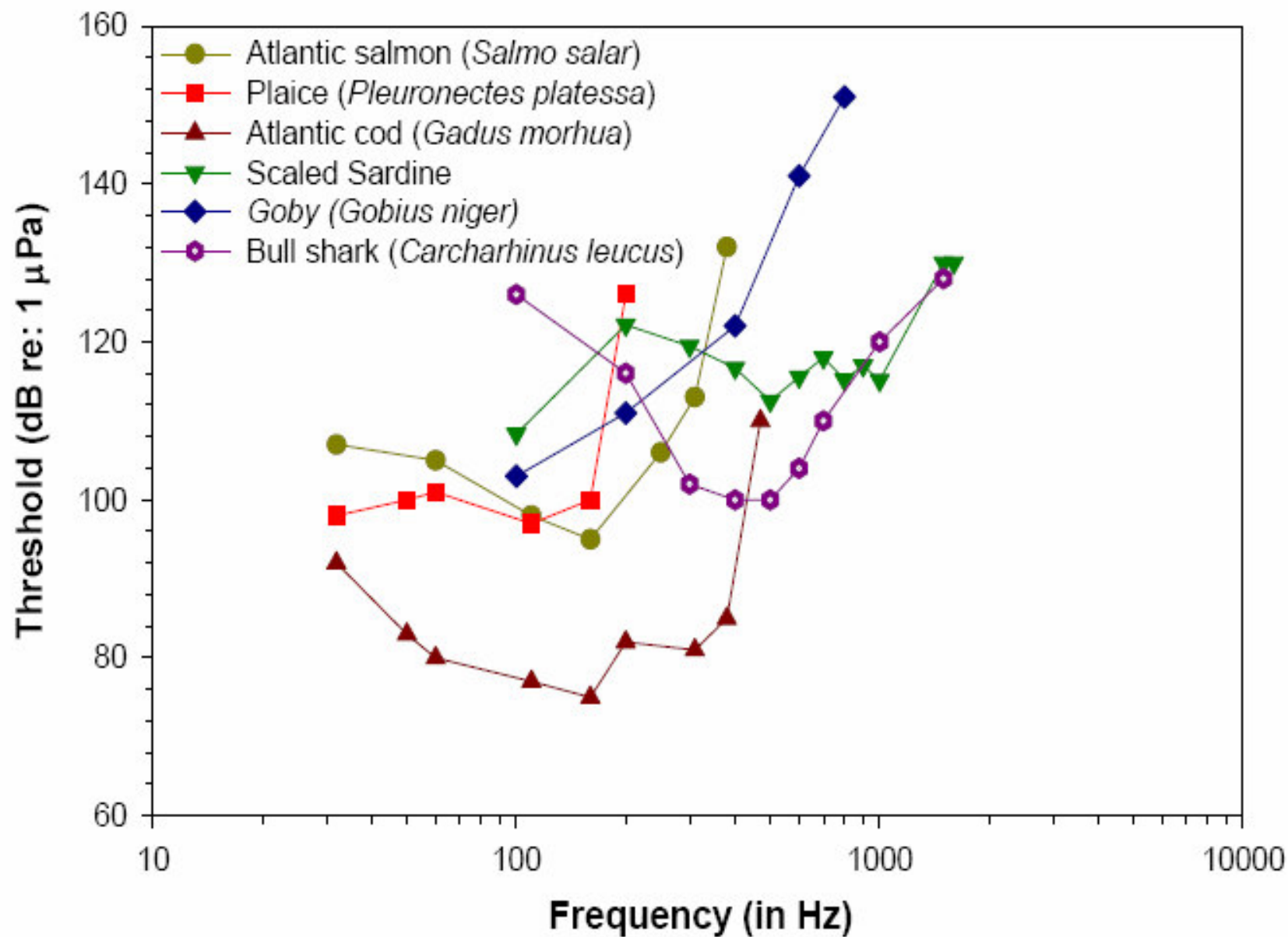
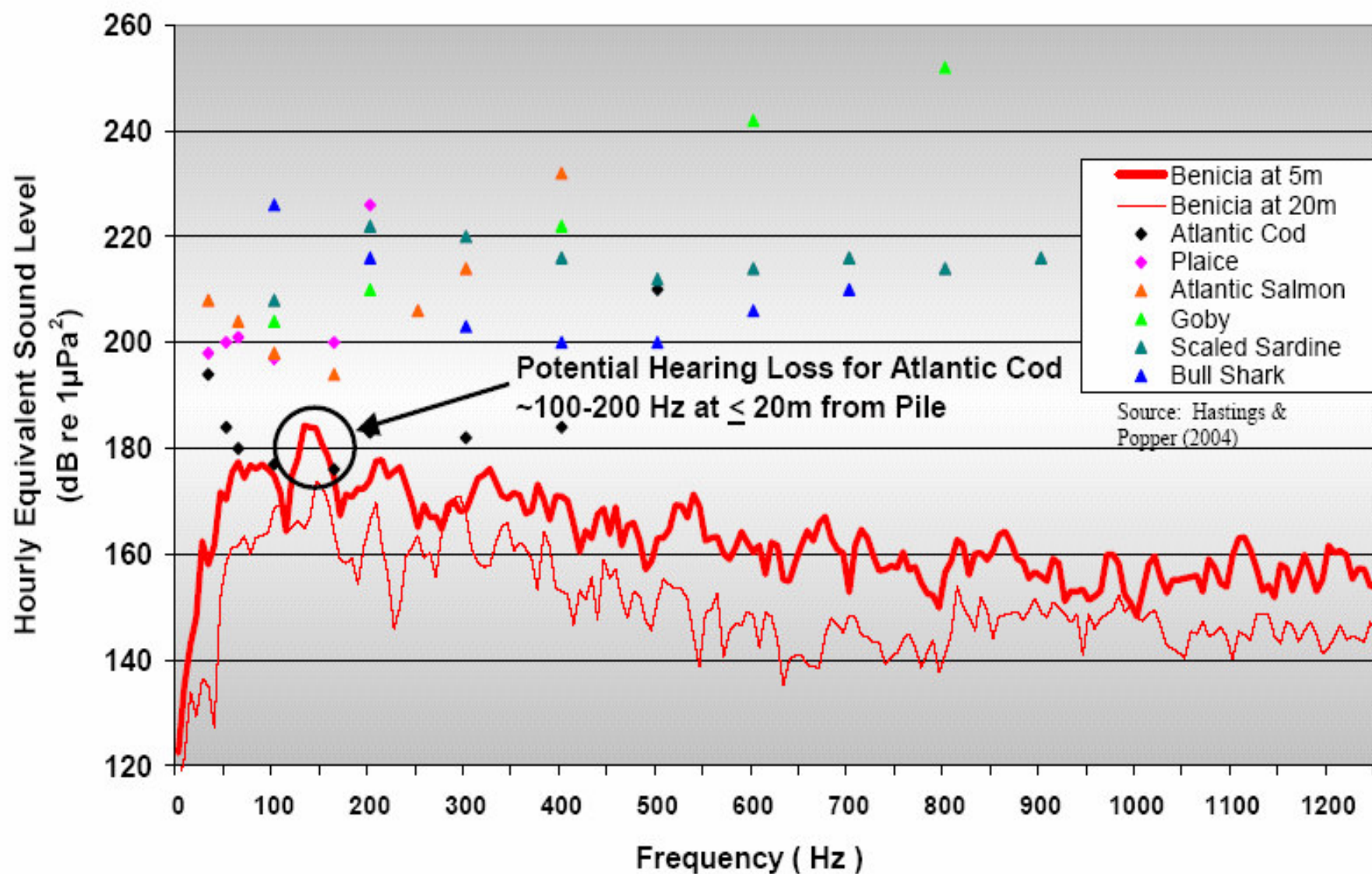


Photo by Dr. Popper

Hearing thresholds of representative species

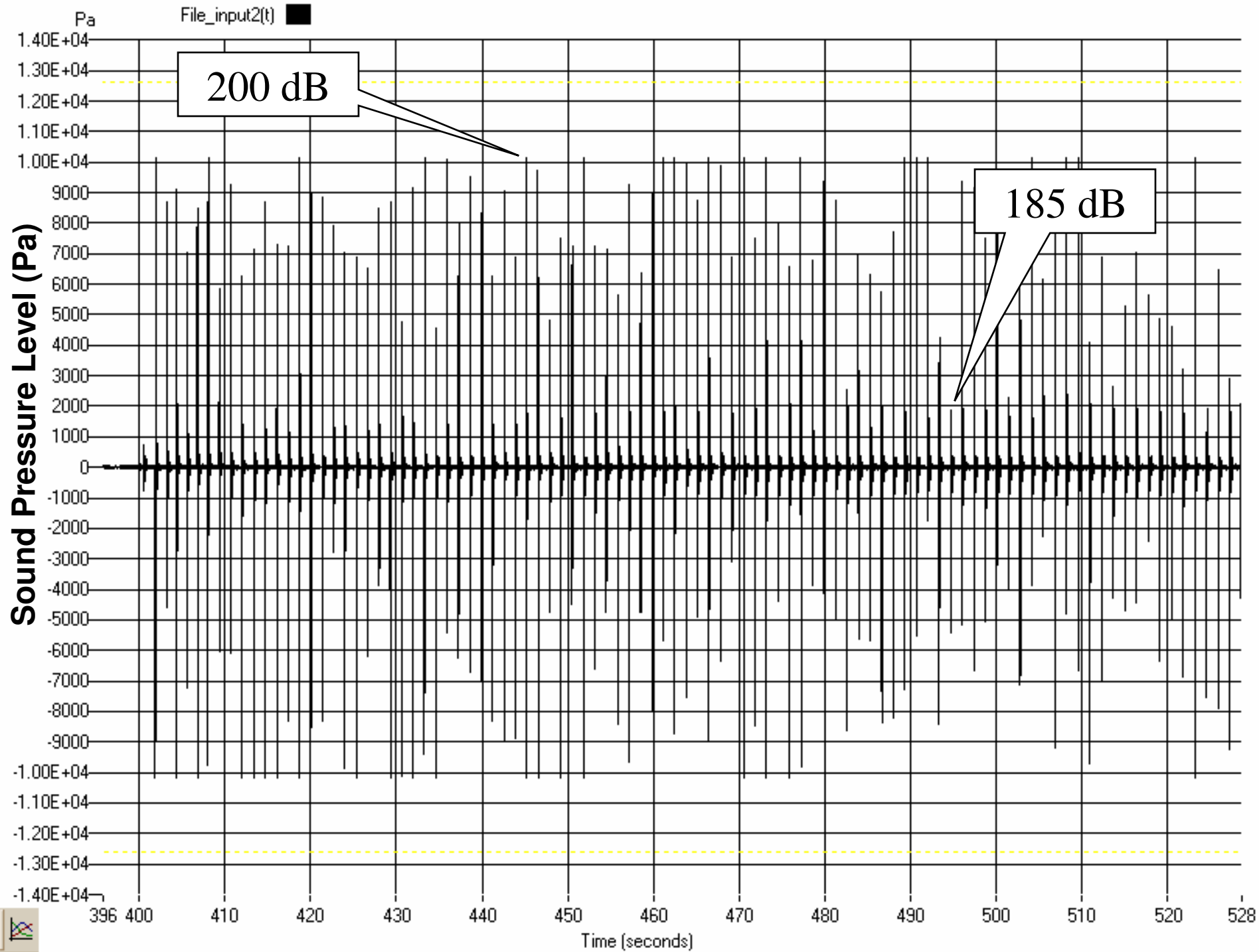


Comparison of Hearing Thresholds of Representative Fish Species to Hourly Equivalent Pile Driving Sound Levels Measured at Benicia



What Do We Measure?

- Sound Pressure Peak dB?



Piles (180 dB_{peak} – NOAA threshold)

PILE TYPE	dB _{peak} re: 1 μ Pa
H-piles (steel)	150 - 160
Timber pile (diameter variable)	160 - 177
24-inch dia. concrete pile	183 - 193
12-inch dia. steel pile	177 – 190
14-inch dia. steel pile	195 – 200
24-inch dia. steel pile	202 - 210

Vibratory driving 10-20 dB re: 1 μPa lower

What Do We Measure?

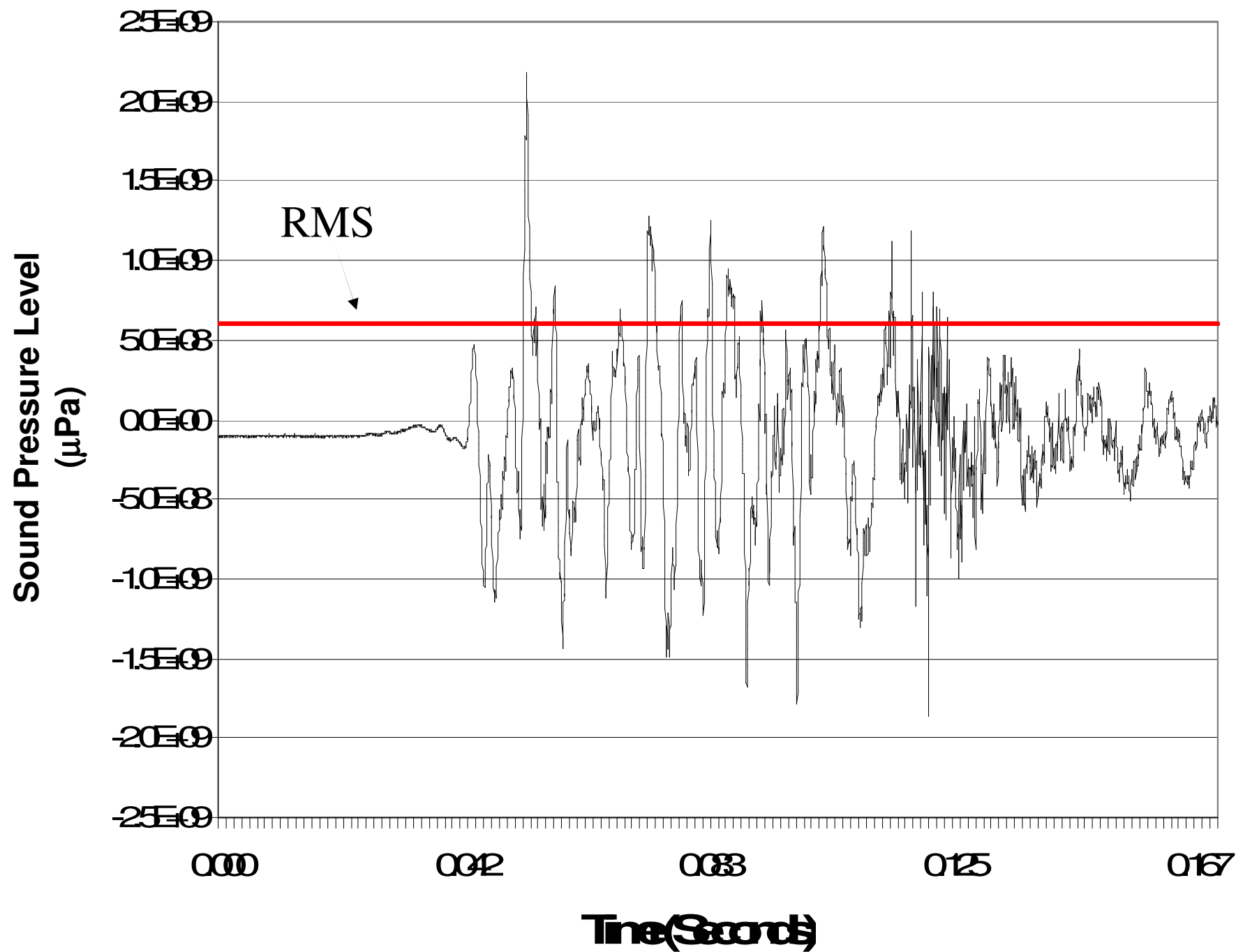
- Sound Pressure Peak dB?
- Rise Time?

WAVEFORM



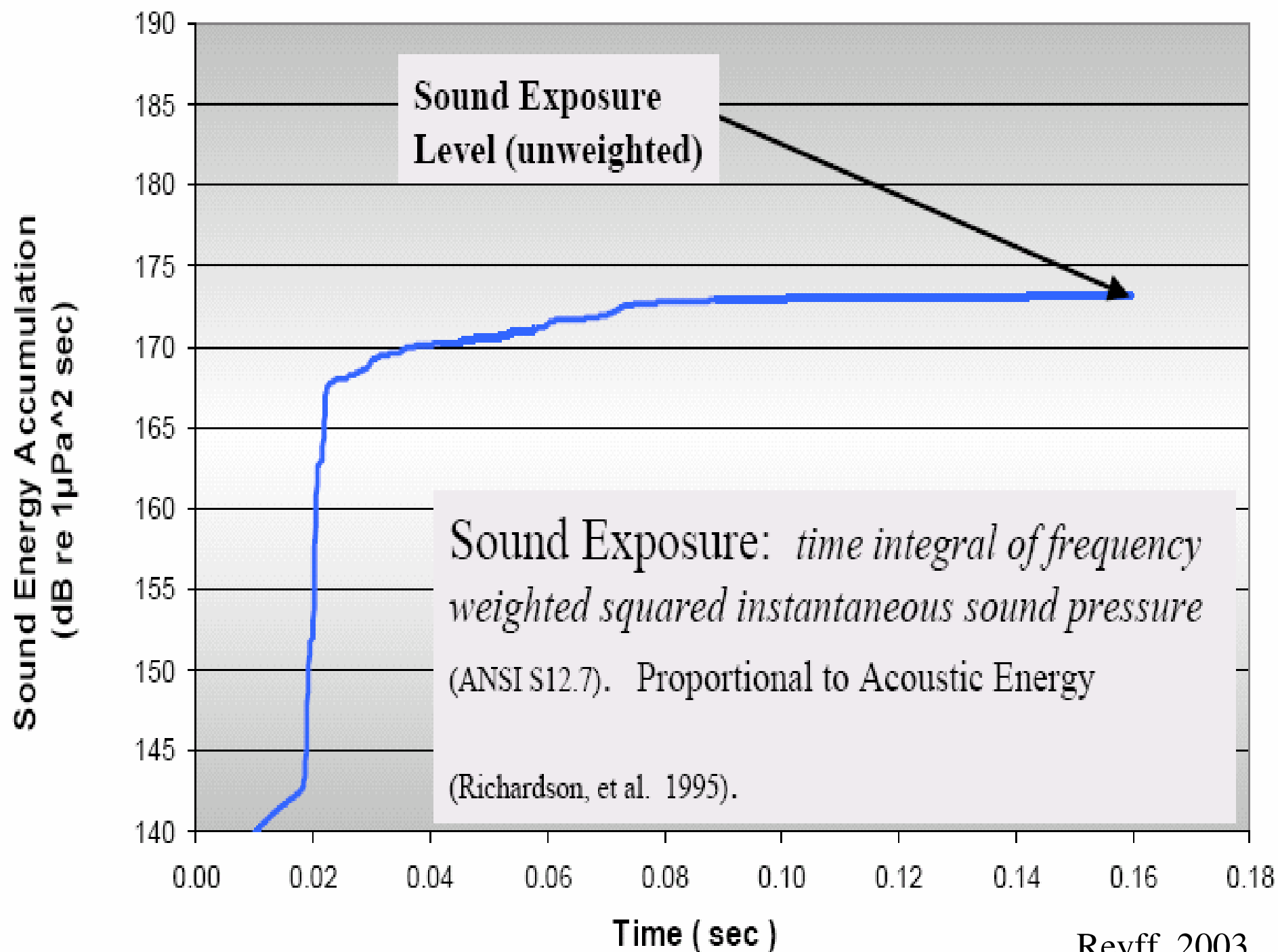
What Do We Measure?

- Sound Pressure Peak dB?
- Rise Time?
- Root Mean Square (RMS)?



What Do We Measure?

- Sound Pressure Peak dB?
- Rise Time?
- Root Mean Square (RMS)?
- Sound Exposure Level (SEL)?



Representative Pile Strike at 10 meters - Timber (12 inches) w/Drop Hammer

Figure a. Waveform

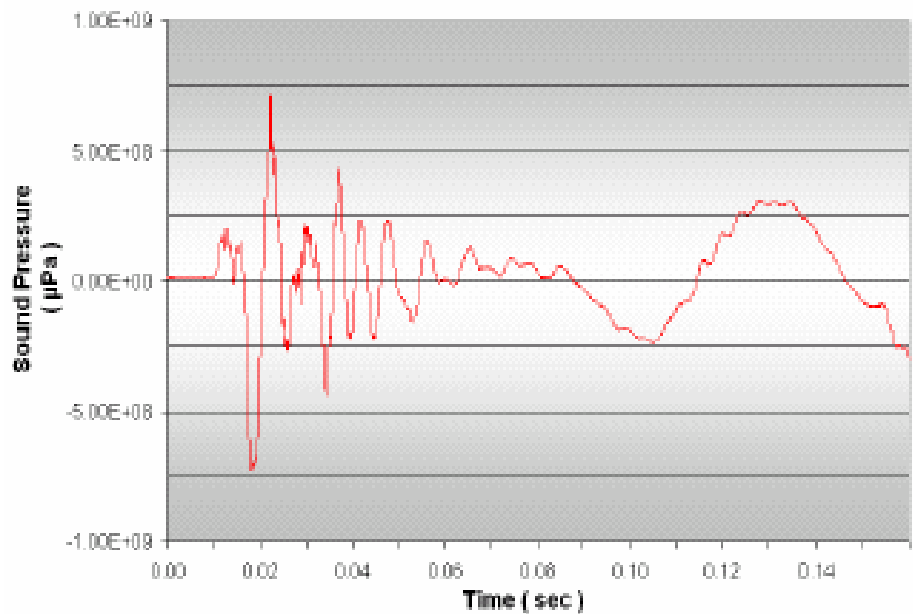


Figure b. Narrow Band Frequency Spectra

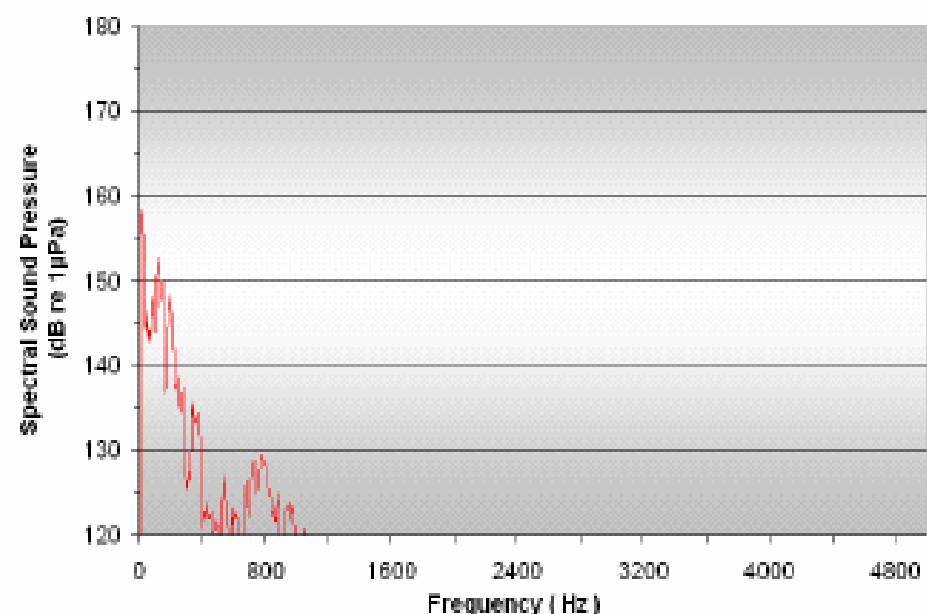


Figure c. Accumulation of Sound Energy

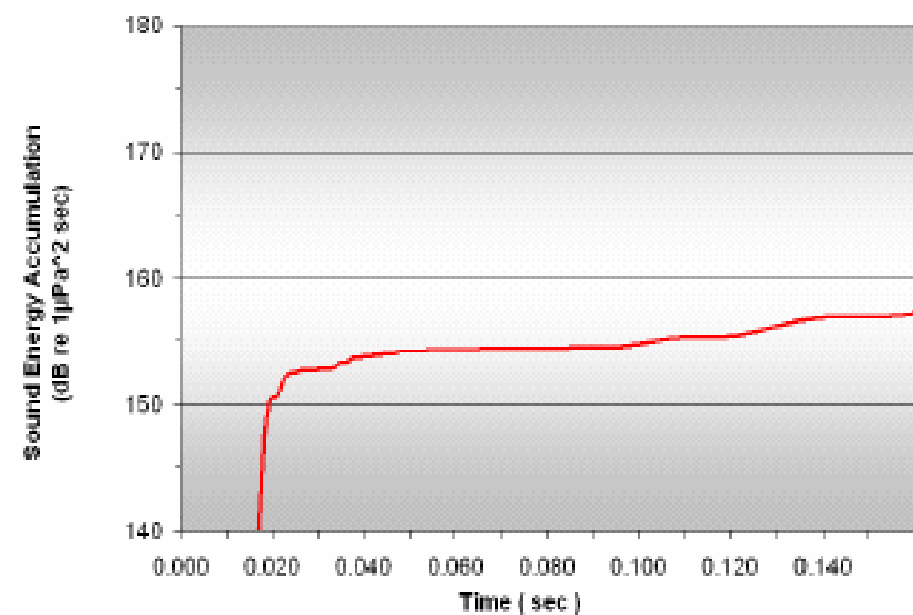


Figure d. Sound Pressure and Sound Energy Levels

Signal Analysis Sound Pressure / Energy Levels			
Timber - 12 inch Diameter	Peak	RMS _{90%} *	SEL
Drop	177	165	157
Typical Sound Pressure / Energy Levels Throughout Drive			
	Peak	RMS _{35ms} **	
Sound Level Meter Measurement	175	165	

*Impulse averaged over 90% of accumulated energy (5% to 95%)
**Standard 35 msec "impulse" RMS time window

Representative Pile Strike at 10 meters - Concrete (24 inches) w/Impact Hammer

Figure a. Waveform

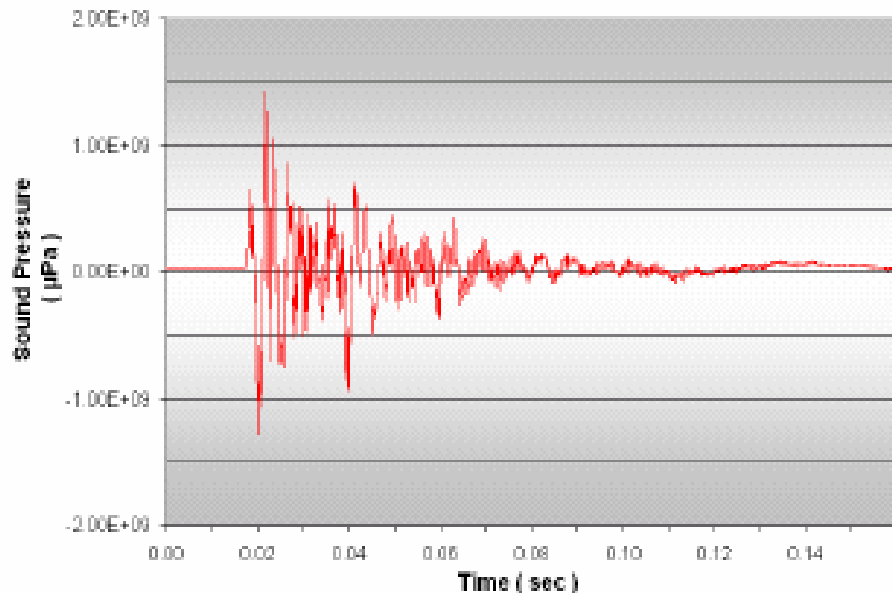


Figure b. Narrow Band Frequency Spectra

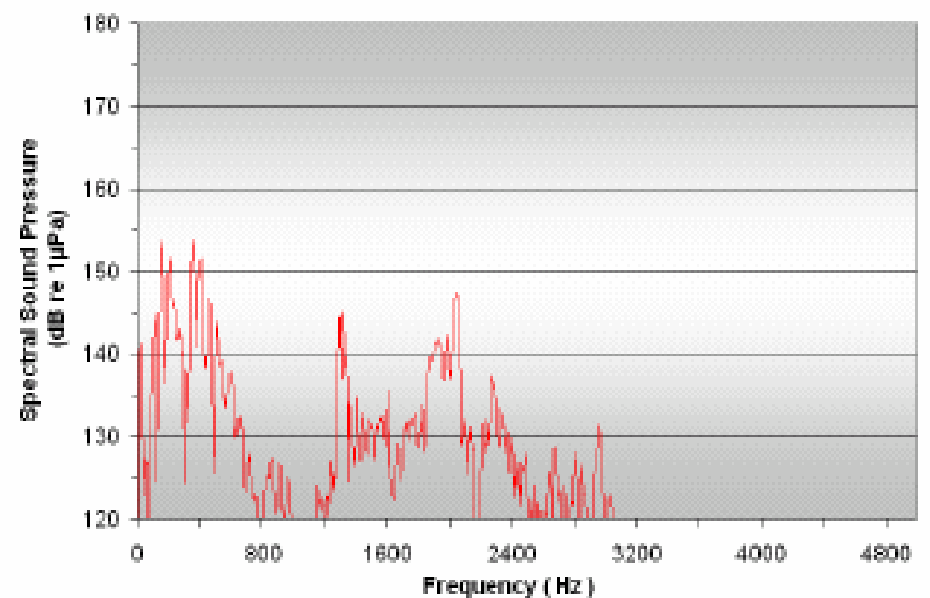


Figure c. Accumulation of Sound Energy

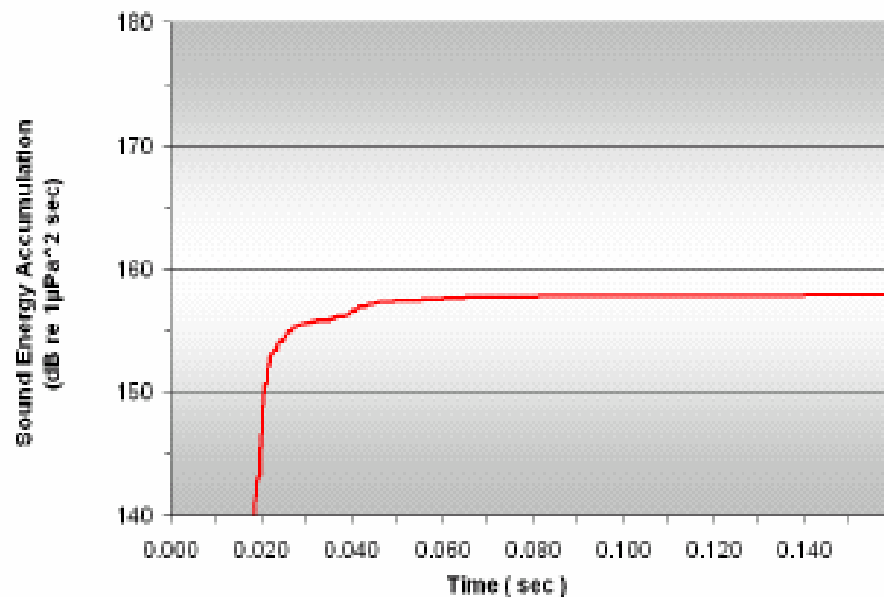


Figure d. Sound Pressure and Sound Energy Levels

Signal Analysis Sound Pressure / Energy Levels

Concrete - 24 inch Diameter	Peak	RMS _{90%} *	SEL
Impact	183	171	158

Typical Sound Pressure / Energy Levels Throughout Drive

	Peak	RMS _{35ms} **
Sound Level Meter Measurement	208	193

*Impulse averaged over 90% of accumulated energy (5% to 95%)

**Standard 35 msec "impulse" RMS time window

Reyff, 2003

Representative Pile Strike at 10 meters - CISS (30 inches) w/Impact Hammer

Figure a. Waveform

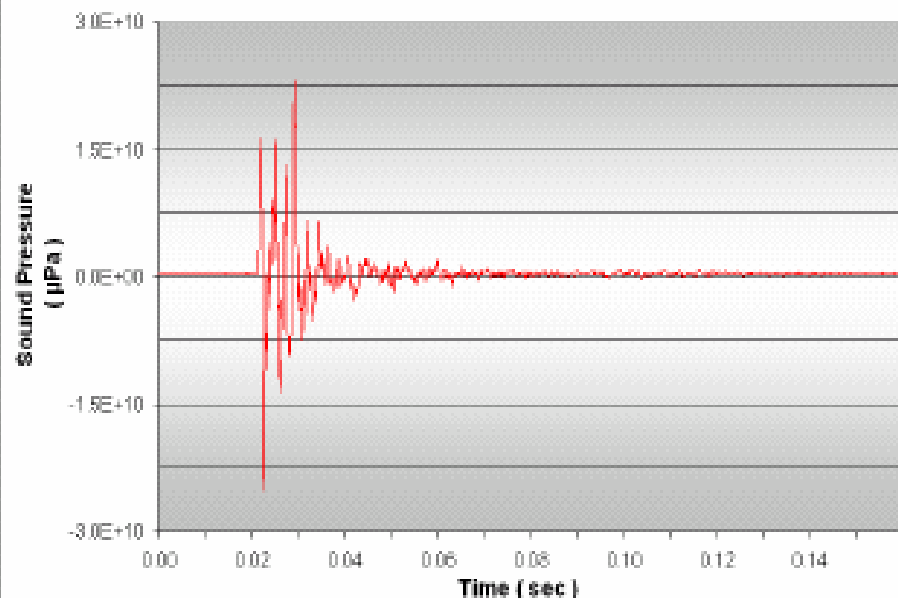


Figure b. Narrow Band Frequency Spectra

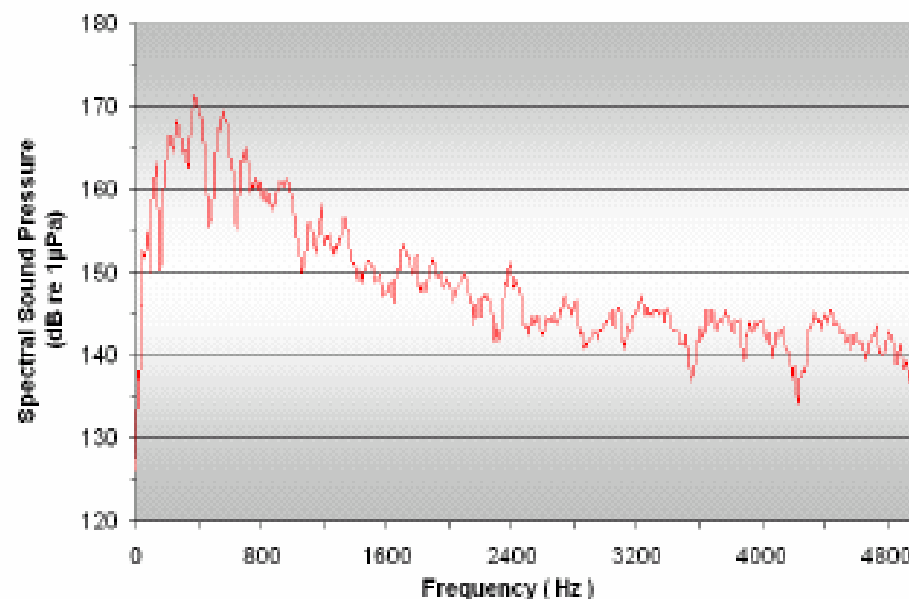


Figure c. Accumulation of Sound Energy

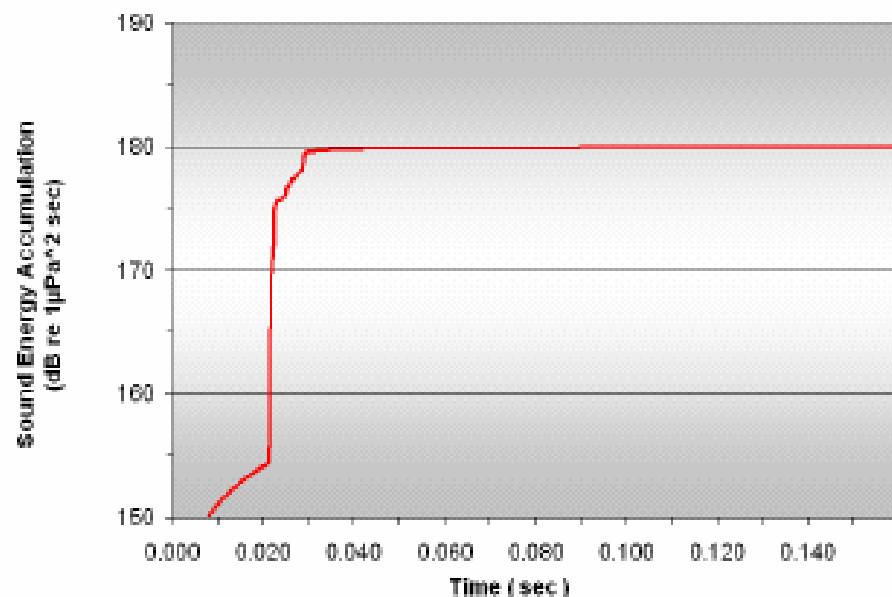


Figure d. Sound Pressure and Sound Energy Levels

Signal Analysis Sound Pressure / Energy Levels

CISS - 30 inch Diameter	Peak	RMS _{90%} *	SEL
Impact	208	198	180

Typical Sound Pressure / Energy Levels Throughout Drive

	Peak	RMS _{35ms} **
Sound Level Meter Measurement	208	199

*Impulse averaged over 90% of accumulated energy (5% to 95%)

**Standard 35 msec "impulse" RMS time window

Reyff, 2003

Comparison with Pile Driving Signals at 10 Meters

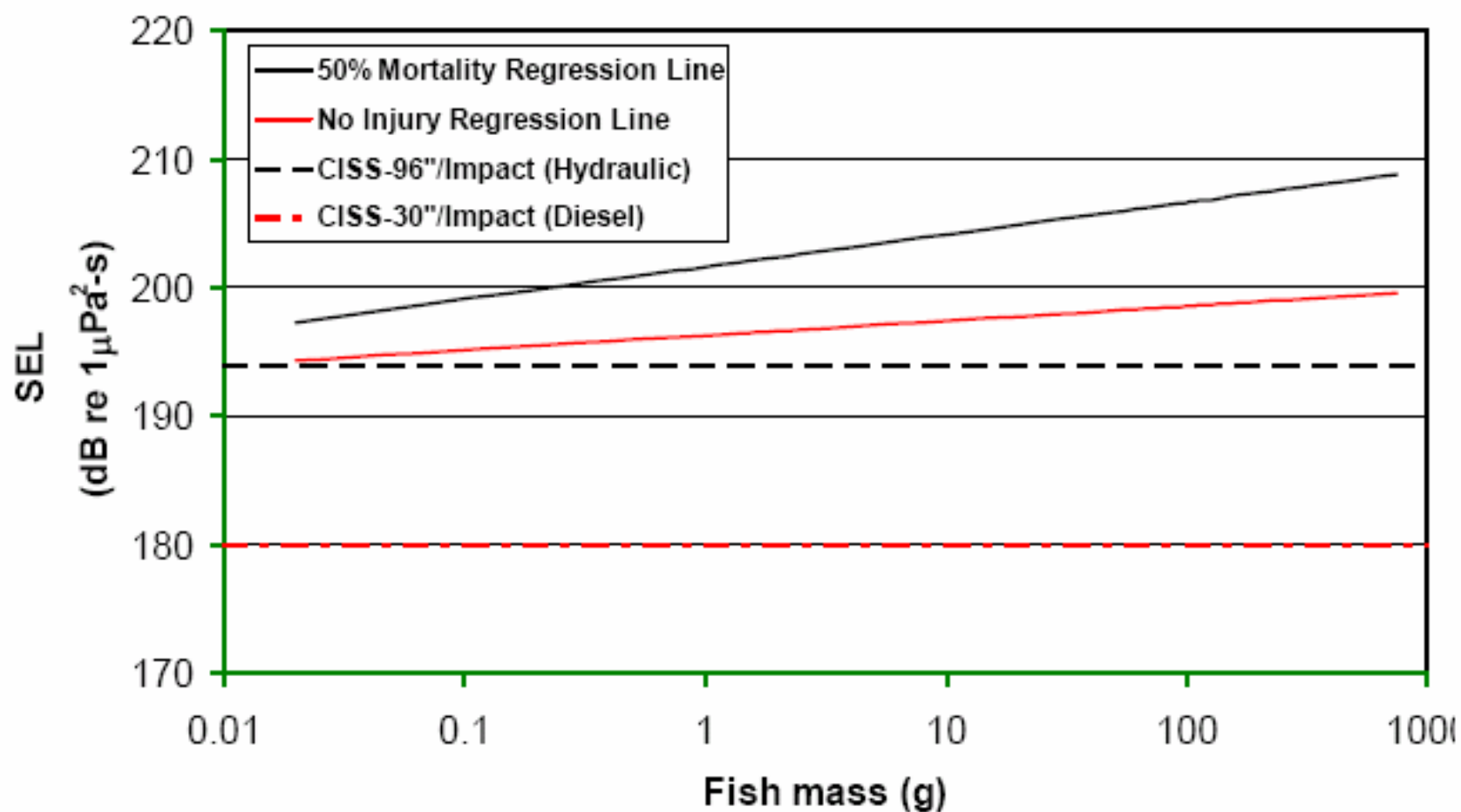


Figure B-1: Comparison of received SEL at 10 meters with the recommended guidance for physical injury and 50% mortality

What Do We Measure?

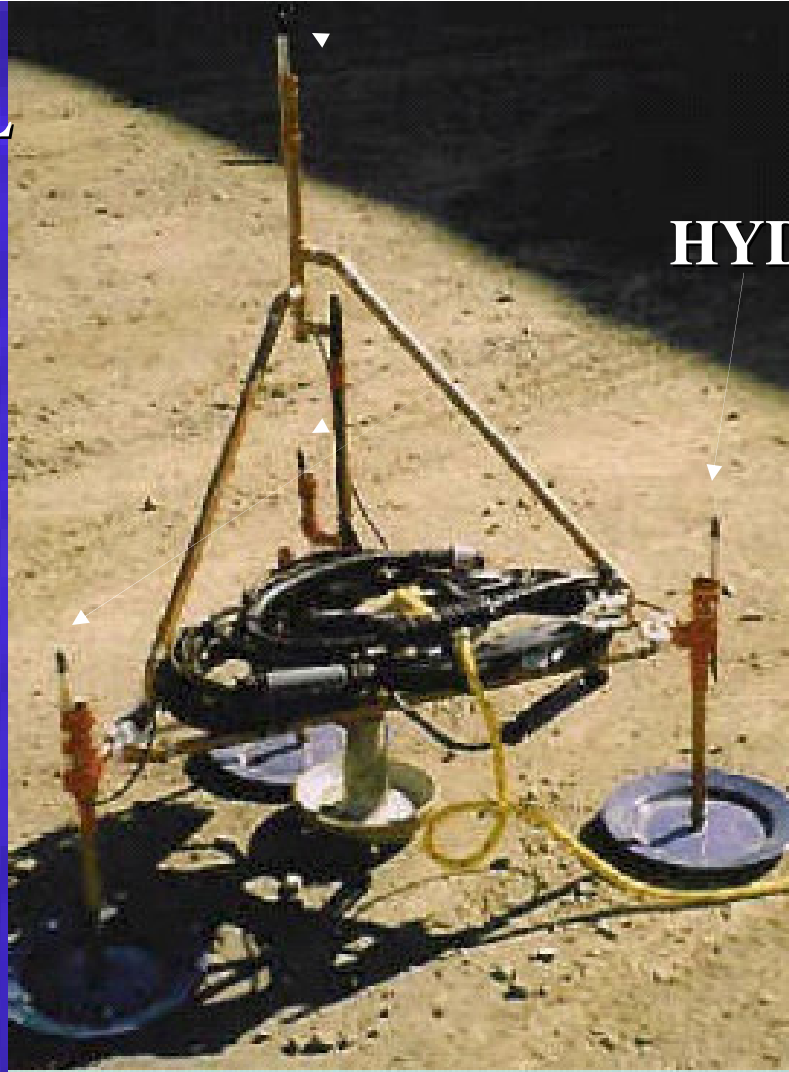
- Sound Pressure Peak dB?
- Rise Time?
- Root Mean Square (RMS)?
- Sound Exposure Level (SEL)
- Acoustical Particle Velocity

Sound Pressure & Particle Velocity

- Humans hear Sound Pressure.
- Most fish hear Acoustic Particle Velocity also known as Sound Intensity:
- $I = pV$
- Intensity also “points” in the direction of sound propagation

ACOUSTICAL
PARTICLE
VELOCITY

HYDROPHONES



MITIGATION

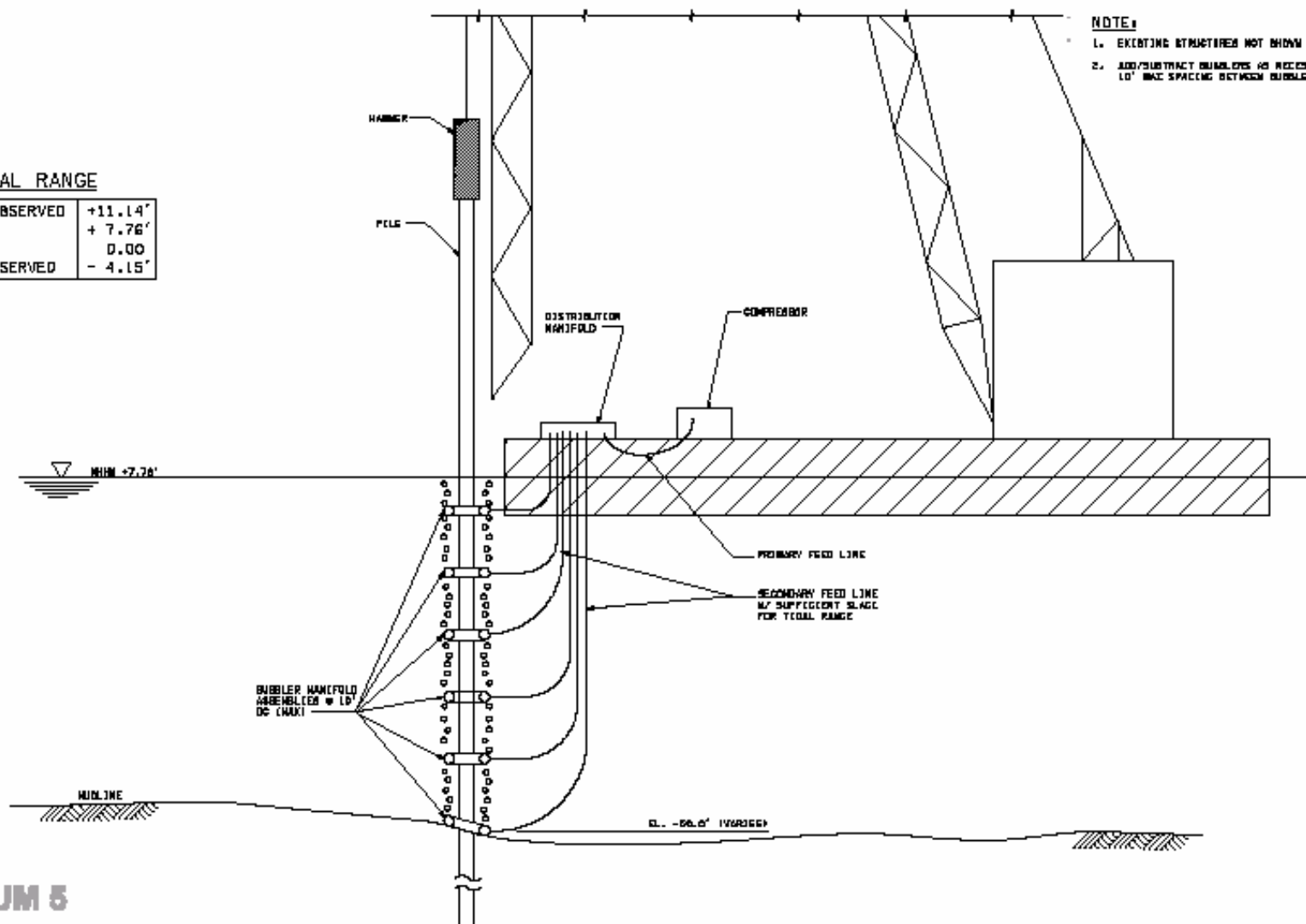
- Bubble Curtain – 5 dB to 15 dB reduction
- Friday Harbor: \$4,000 per pile

TIDAL RANGE

HIGHEST OBSERVED	+11.14'
HHW	+ 7.76'
MLLW	0.00
LOWEST OBSERVED	- 4.15'

NOTE:

1. EXISTING STRUCTURES NOT SHOWN FOR CLARITY.
2. ADD/SUBTRACT BUBBLES AS NECESSARY TO ACHIEVE 10' MAX SPACING BETWEEN BUBBLES.



ADDENDUM 5

FILE NAME: H:\PROJECTS\6737_01\BUBBLECURTAIN\0620_PSE\RD_6420\ACOE_FRODO\001.DWG

PRINTED: 12:48 PM 05/10/2004

SUBMITTAL DATE:

DESIGNED BY:

CHECKED BY:

DATE:

WSP PROJ ENGR:

WSP PROJ MGMT & TERM PLANT J. GILBY

WSP PROJ W. THORNE

DATE:

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REVISION

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BY

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Washington State
Department of Transportation
WASHINGTON STATE FERRIES

FRIDAY HARBOR
PRESERVATION PROJECT

BUBBLE CURTAIN ARRANGEMENT

C11.00A

SHEET

53A

OF

435

SHEETS

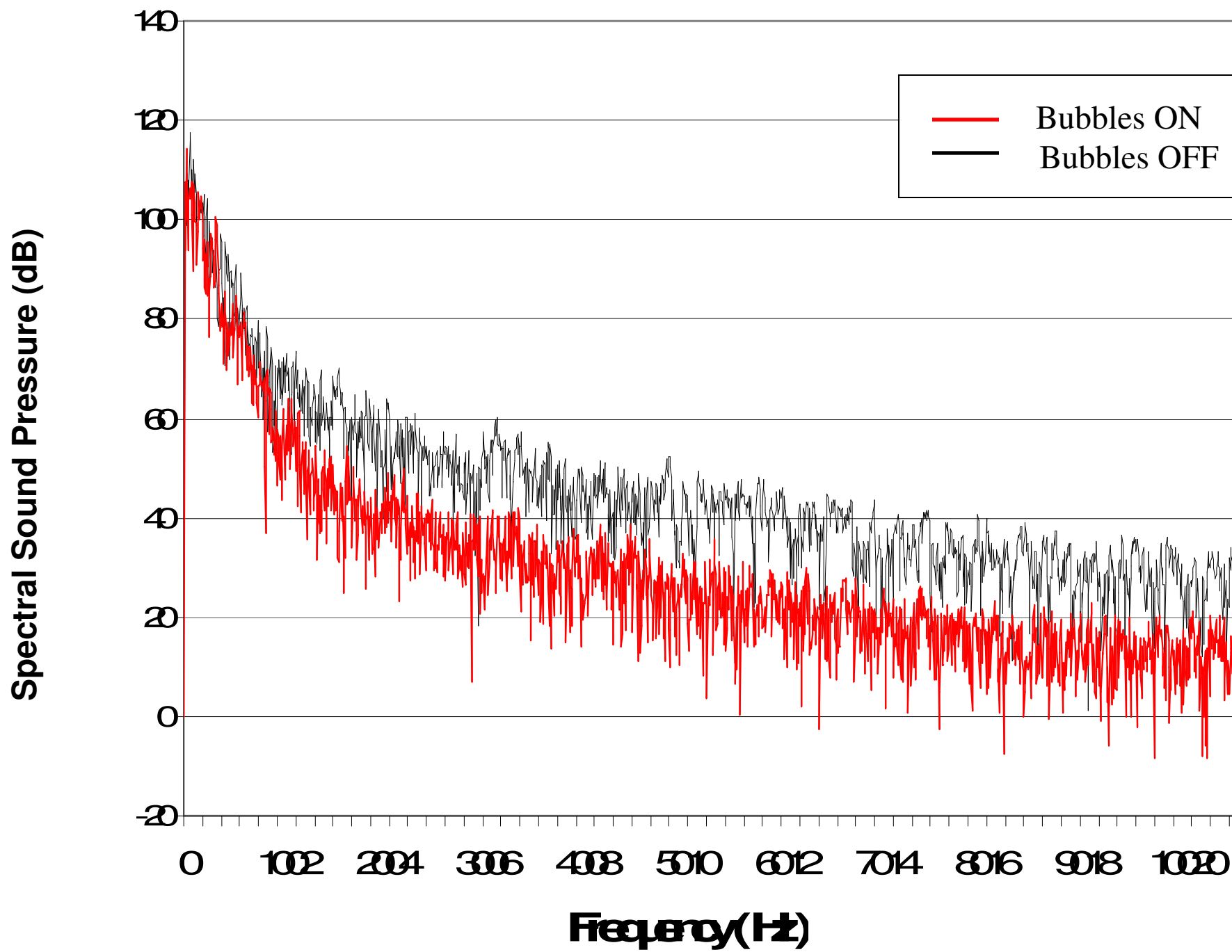


Bubble Curtain





Bubble Curtain

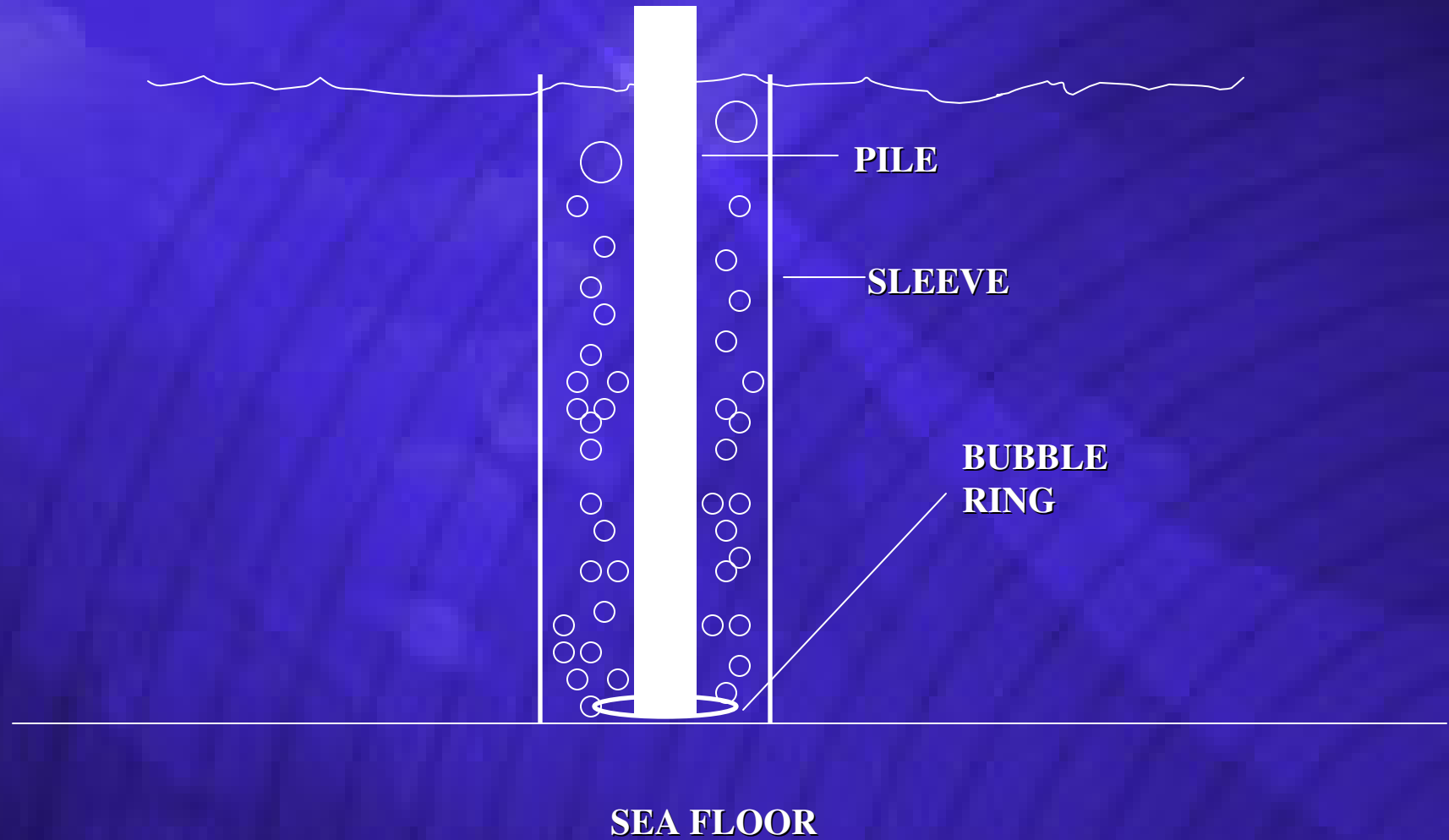


MITIGATION

- Bubble Curtain
- Sleeves – 10 dB to 20 dB reduction

Cost slightly higher than bubble curtain

CONFINED BUBBLE CURTAIN (TYPE II)

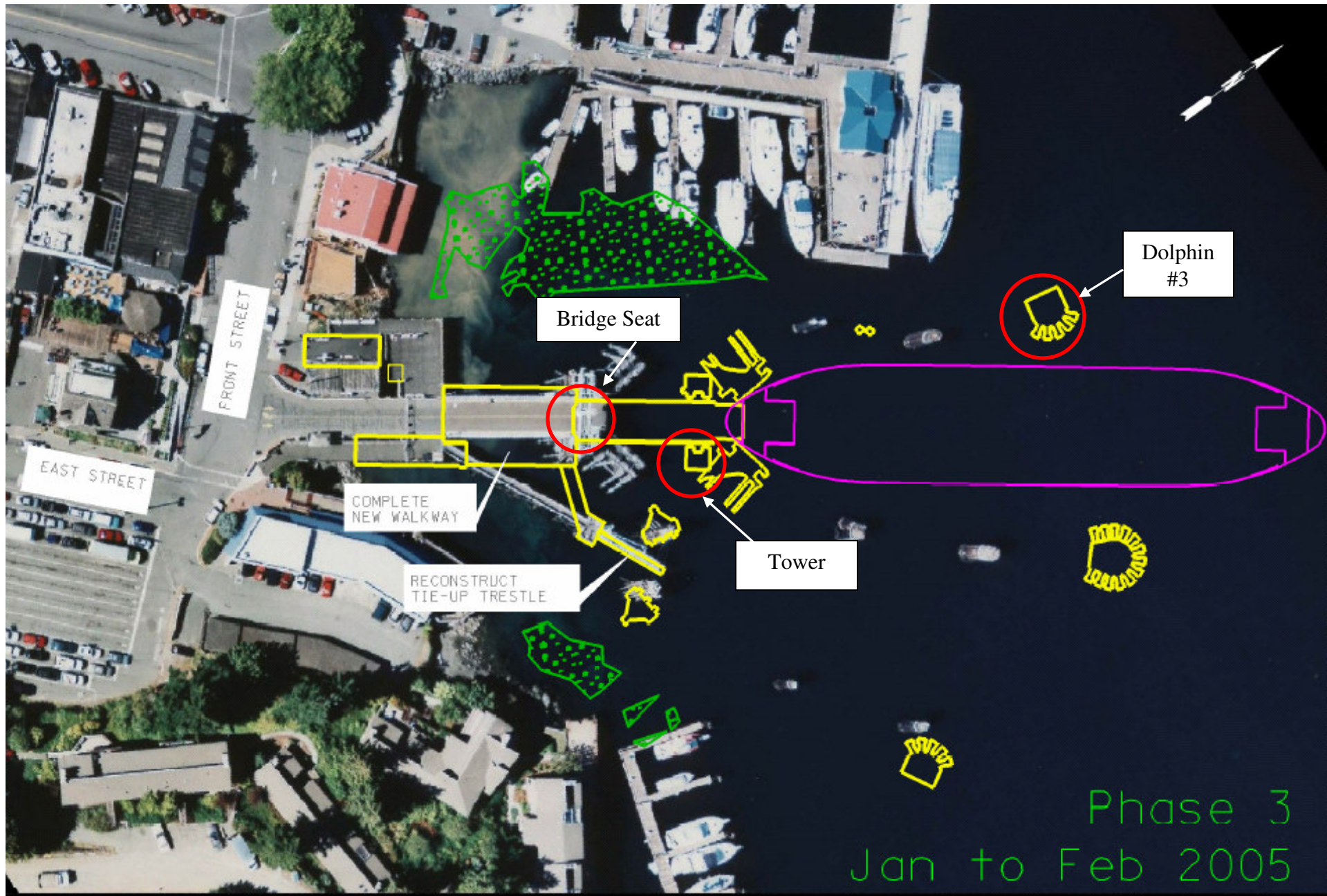




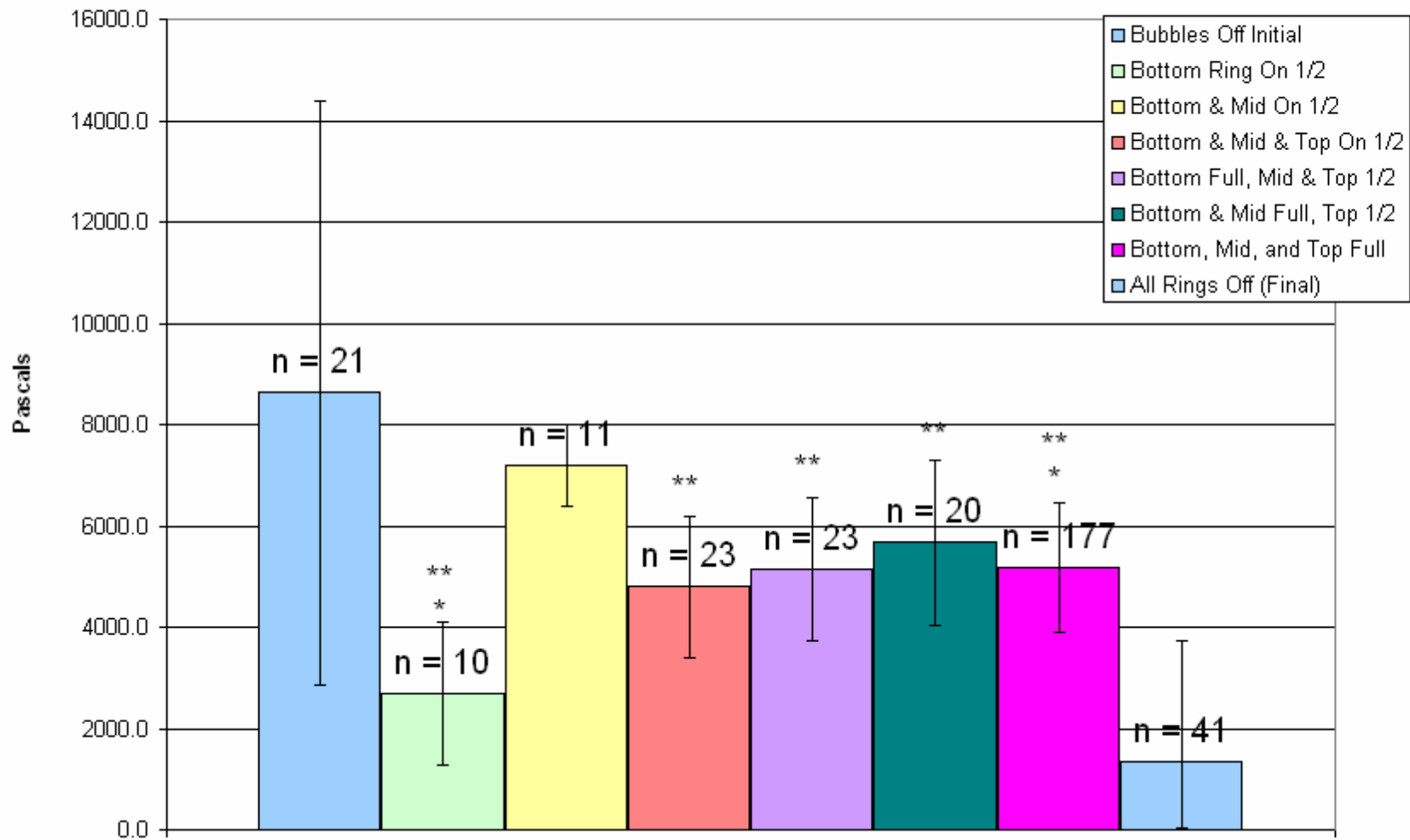
MITIGATION

- Bubble Curtain
- Sleeves
- Dry Cofferdams
- Timing
- Driving above the MHHW line

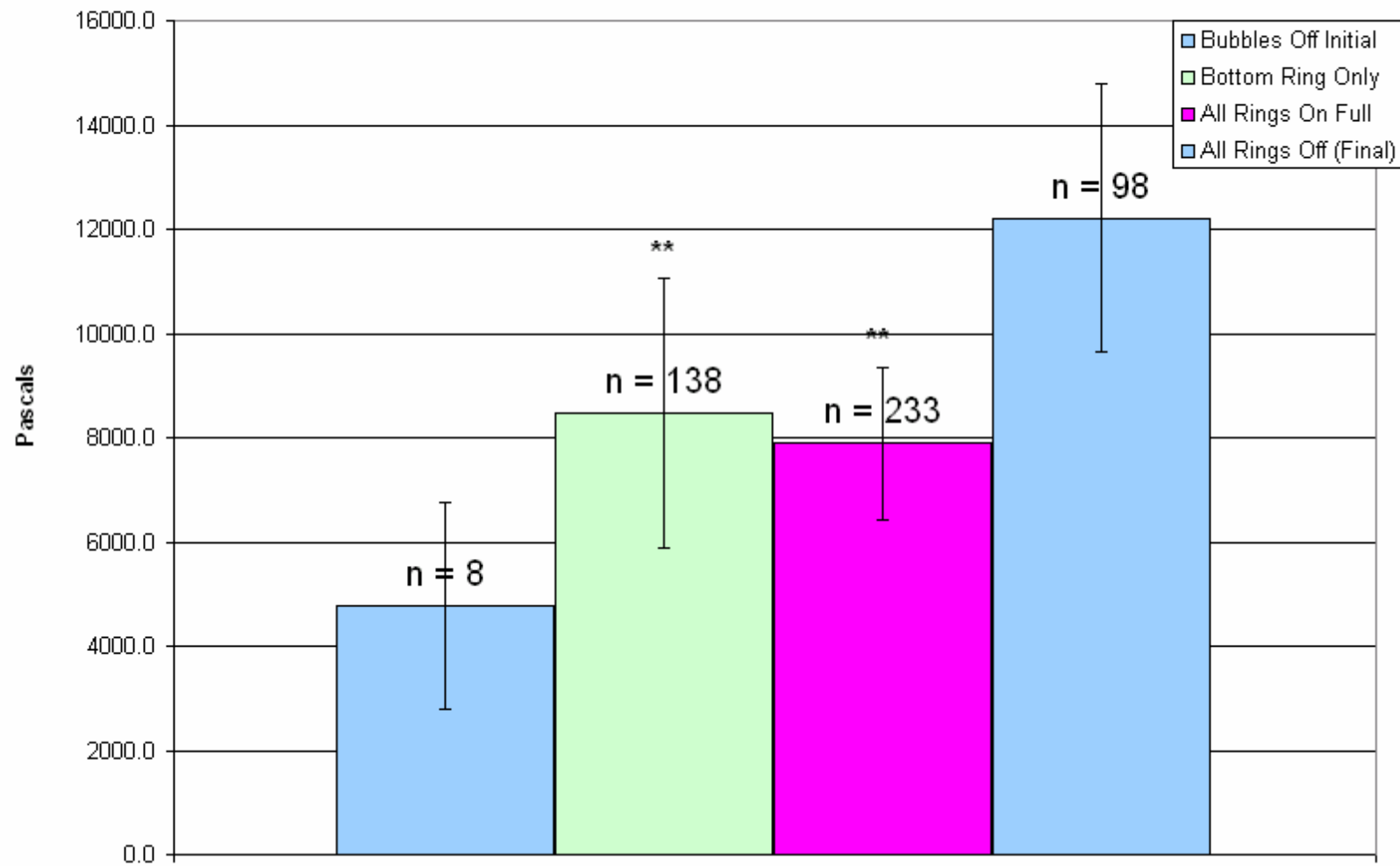
Friday Harbor



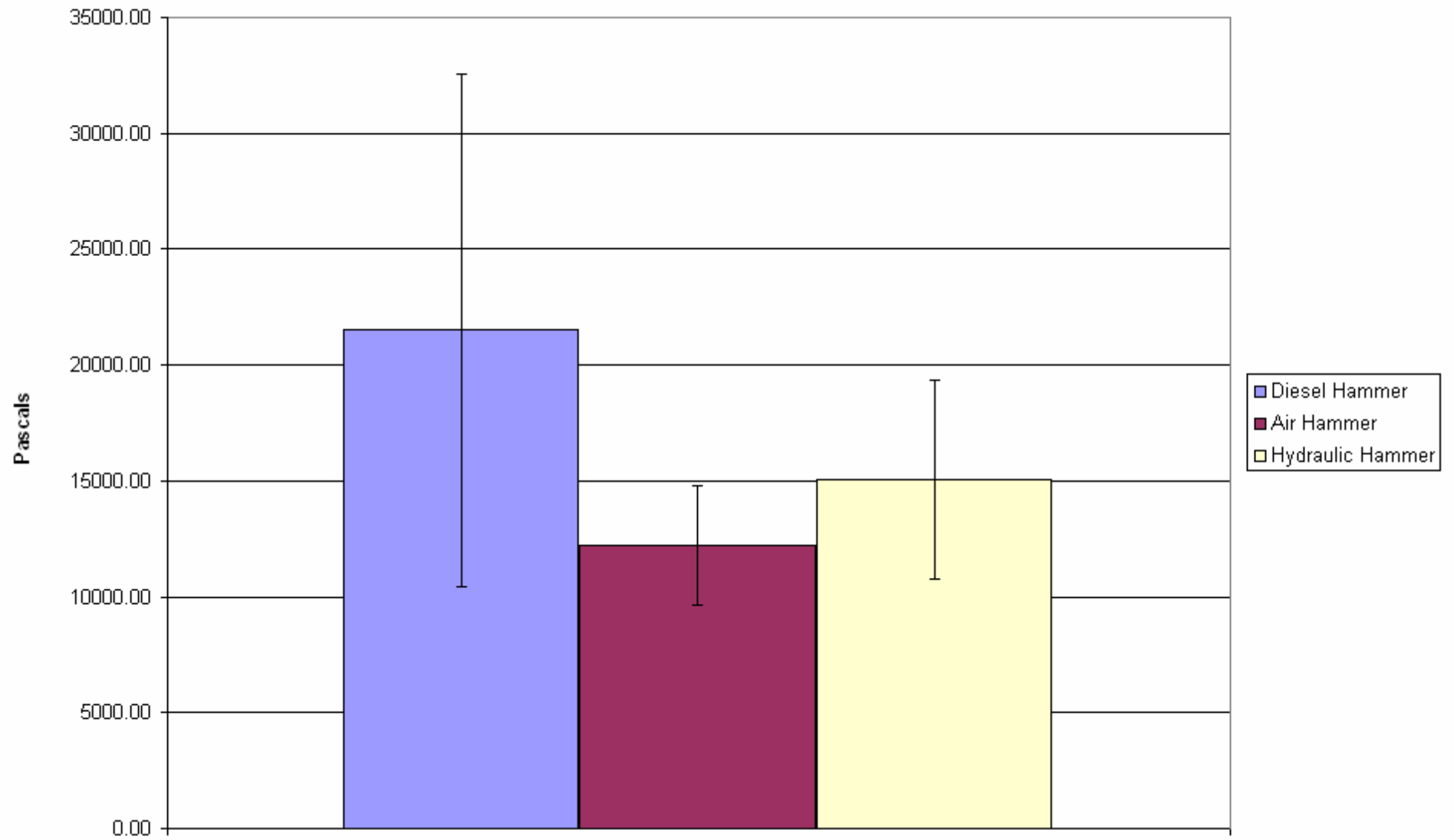
Midwater Received Levels (Peak)



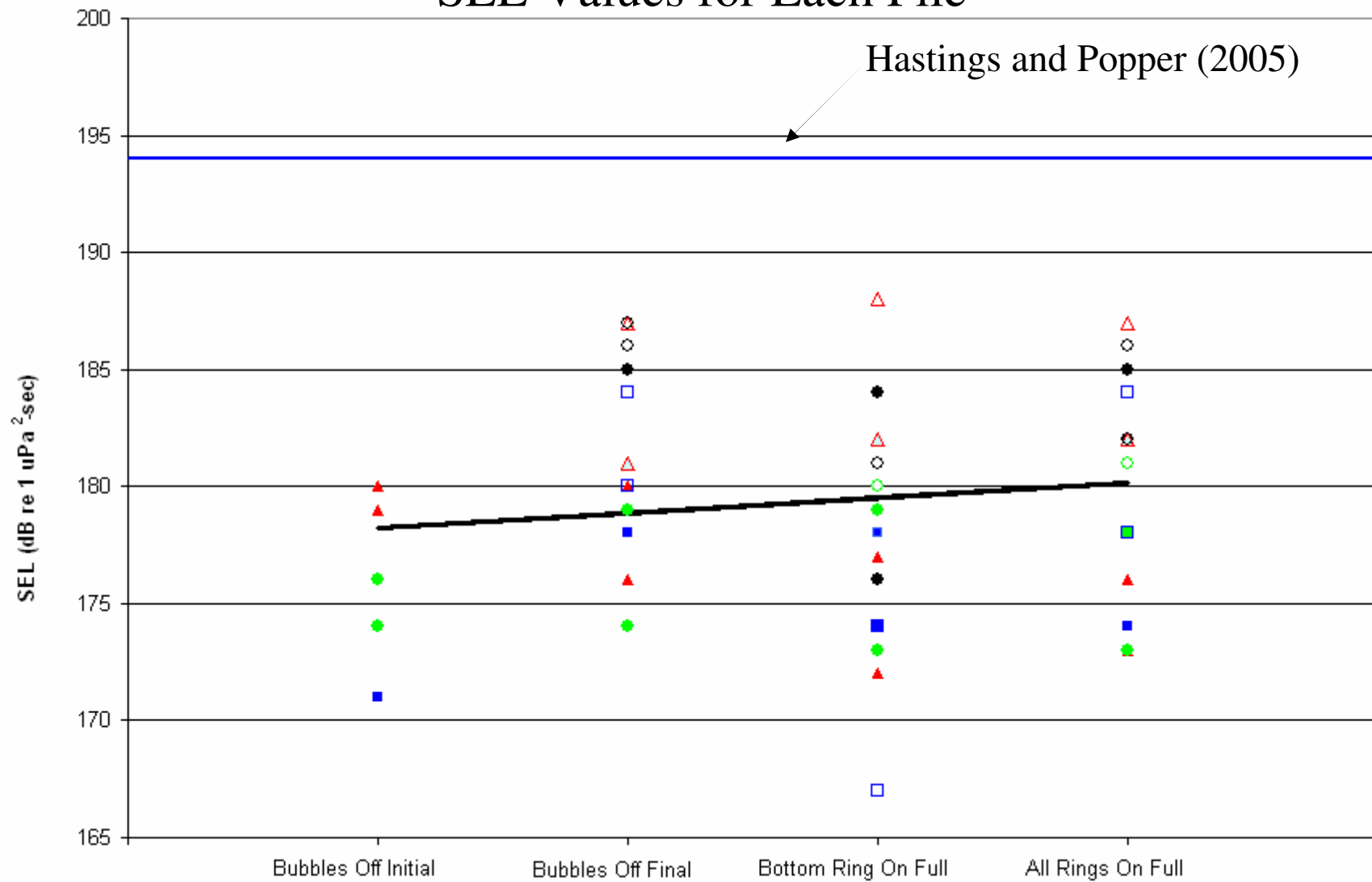
Midwater Received Levels (Peak)



Hammer Comparisons (bubbles off)



SEL Values for Each Pile



Preliminary Conclusions

- Preferred hammer type: Diesel
- Bubble curtain with one ring at bottom
- Need more analysis

CURRENT WSDOT ACTIVITIES

2005 PROJECTS

- SR 24 Bridge Replacement (Yakima River)
- Eagle Harbor Ferry Maintenance Facility
- Anacortes Ferry Terminal
- Winslow Ferry Terminal
- Hood Canal Bridge

2006 PROJECTS

- SR 202
- Mukilteo Test Piles (Concrete)

WHAT'S NEXT

- Gather more information on WSDOT pile driving efforts.
- Work with services to determine appropriate criteria (performance based not prescriptive)
- **Research**
 - NCHRP funding (\$450K)
 - WSDOT Particle Velocity sensor funding (\$150K)
 - WSDOT Data Analysis Funding (\$40K)
 - Pooled Funding (\$500K)

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